

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 IO-10 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00

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FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

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UNCLAS THE HAGUE 2419

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, NL

SUBJECT: DUTCH TO USE UNIONS AS AID CONDUITS

1. DEVELOPMENT AID MINISTER PRONK IN APRIL APPROVED PROJECTS AMOUNTING TO THREE MILLION GULDERS (1 DOLLAR EQUALS 2.40 GULDERS), TO BE FINANCED FROM OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT DEVELOPMENT FUNDS BUT TO BE CARRIED OUT IN LDC'S BY TRADE UNIONS.

2. THIS NEW FORM OF AID WILL BE COORDINATED BY FOUNDATION FOR DEVELOPMENT AID COOPERATION OF DUTCH TRADE UNION FEDERATIONS (S.O.S.V.), ESTABLISHED BY DUTCH TRADE UNIONS NVV (SOCIALIST), NKV (CATHOLIC), AND CNV (PROTESTANT).

3. BUDGETED AMOUNTS WILL BE ALLOCATED AS FOLLOWS:
- ONE MILLION GULDERS ON PROJECTS OF INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF FREE TRADE UNIONS (I.C.F.T.U.)
- ONE MILLION GULDERS ON PROJECTS OF WORLD FEDERATION OF LABOR (W.C.L.)
- ONE MILLION GULDERS ON PROJECTS OF TRADE UNIONS NOT ALLIED TO INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.

4. PROJECTS CONSIDERED FOR FINANCIAL SUPPORT COMPRISE
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TRAINING AND SCHOOLING, EMPLOYMENT, AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY,

AND ORGANIZATION OF TRADE UNIONS. SUPPORT WILL BE GIVEN IN PARTICULAR TO FOSTERING PROJECTS OF MUTUAL INTEREST TO WORKERS IN BOTH RICH AND POOR COUNTRIES. AS AN EXAMPLE, SUPPORT WILL BE GIVEN TO TRADE UNIONS OF LDC'S IN WHICH DUTCH-BASED MULTINATIONALS HAVE ESTABLISHED SUBSIDIARIES.

5. ACCORDING TO DUTCH CATHOLIC TRADE UNION FEDERATION NKV, NEW FORM OF DEVELOPMENT AID DEMONSTRATES ITS UNIQUENESS BY FACT THAT CONSENT OF LDC INVOLVED IS NO LONGER REQUIRED. TRADE UNIONS ALONE ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR CHOICE OF PROJECTS, ALTHOUGH DEVELOPMENT AID MINISTER PRONK RETAINS VETO.

6. BESIDES FUNDS PROVIDED BY DEVELOPMENT AID MINISTRY, FOUNDATION OF DUTCH TRADE UNION FEDERATIONS ALSO SUPPLIES AID FROM OWN SOURCES. THUS, SIXTY THOUSAND GULDERS WERE SUPPLIED DURING LAST FOUR MONTHS MAINLY TO TRADE UNIONS IN SOUTH AFRICA AFTER MINISTER PRONK OPPOSED USE OF GON AID FUNDS IN THAT COUNTRY.
TANGUY

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